ARECANUT GROWERS AND TRADERS—GRIEVANCES OF

216. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Diwan has received a memorial from a deputation of arecanut growers and traders headed by Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Member for Talappalli Ezhuvas) on the 6th January 1942, at 10-35 a.m.;

(*b*) what action has the Government taken on the memorial for preventing adulteration of cured arecanuts?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The question of bringing adulteration of arecanut under the scope of Food Adulteration Act is being considered.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Is it a Government Bill, Sir, that is being considered?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am not in a position to answer it just now.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The Government said that they are considering the question. May I know whether the Government is going to bring in a Bill?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* That is a question which I cannot answer just now. I cannot say what the Government would do later on.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Hon'ble Member for Talappalli Ezhuvas has not tabled a motion for leave to introduce a Bill this time? May I know whether the Government is going to support that Bill?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* One cannot say in advance what the Government will do when a Bill is introduced in this Council. It is just like asking the sex of the child before the child is born.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether arecanuts will fall under the category of food?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* That is the difficulty.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Government have enquired whether the arecanuts come within the definition of food in the Madras Food Adulteration Act?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* There is a decision of our High Court that it will not fall within the category of food.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Whose food is arecanut?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* What I wanted to know is whether that comes within the purview of the definition of food in that Act. It is not a propaganda to ask people to eat it. May I know whether we can take action against people who do this mischief?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *Advocate-General):* We can include that also if you want.

FISHERIES RESEARCH OFFICER—TERM—EXTENSION OF

217. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when was the term of appointment of the Fisheries Survey and Research Officer last extended; for what period;

(*b*) when was this appointment first made and the number of time its period was extended;

(*c*) the reasons for extension and at whose request;

(*d*) whether the Government intend sending him for further training; if so, whither;

(*e*) the total travelling allowance drawn by this officer from his date of appointment till the end of Kanni 1117; other contingent charges expended for the same period for his office and staff and the total pay (allowance drawn by him during the same period);

(*f*) whether he has completed any work entrusted with him for execution when he was appointed?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Extended from 1st Vrischigam 1117 for three months.

(*b*) Medam 1115. 4 times.

(*c*) The period of appointment was first extended, because it was thought that the three months' time originally allowed was too short to complete the investigation. The work could not be completed within this period and the term of appointment was extended for a second time. The third extension was made to depute the officer to Calicut to study

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly